

Editor John O'Neill

Please check both your email and the Chapter website (<http://www.dublinwoodturners.com>) regularly for updates. Videos of our demonstrations can be found on our youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@DublinWoodTurners>.

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Below, spinning wheel by Peter Hoare in July open competition



Peter Hoare



Our demonstrator today is Tom Windross. A young woodturner from County Waterford.

Tom is one of the Founder's Bursary Award winners and produces beautiful pieces from green wood. Below are a small example of some of his pieces.





1st
beginners
Mike Hart



2nd
beginners
John Deaton

John Deaton



Colum
Murphy

1st advanced Colum Murphy



Paul Murtagh

2nd advanced Paul Murtagh



Claire Godkin

3rd advanced Claire Godkin



Barry Dunne

4th advanced Barry Dunne



5th advanced Michael Stephens



1st artistic Claire Godkin



1st experienced Brendan O'Looney



open Catherine Ging



open Claire Godkin



open Denis Ging



open Diarmuid Ging



open Eugene Grimley



open Eugene Grimley



open John Foley



open John Foley



open John Moore



open John Moore



open Louise Wilde



open Louise Wilde



open Michael Fay



open Michael Fay

open
Peter
Hoare





Tom Markey

Open Tom Markey



Tom Markey

open Tom Markey



Tom Markey

open Tom Markey

Events of interest on

August is craft month in Ireland.

Check <https://augustcraftmonth.org> for events around the country.

Fingal Woodturners Exhibition of Turned Pieces

Phoenix Park Visitor Centre, Dublin from 1st August to 31st August and will be open every day.

Vernacular Furniture & Traditional Crafts at Larchill - Heritage Week

Saturday will include talks and demonstrations on traditional Irish vernacular crafts, including liling and whistling by Liam Jones, basketry with Beth Murphy, discussions on cob-walled buildings by Dr Seamus Cullen, demonstrations of greenwood vernacular furniture making, and Hannah Gallagher (National Museum of Ireland – Country Life, Turlough Park House) talking about old Irish clothing, as well as bringing examples. More to come!

Saturday 15 August, entry free but booking advised

Competition Table

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
Beginners													
John Deaton			15	15	15	15	15	13					88
Michael Hart								15					15
Liam Slattery					13								13
Peter Consalvez						13							13
Experienced													
Brendan O'Looney		15	15	15	15	15	15	15					105
Maria Jennings						13							13
Ray Ivers					13								13
Advanced													
Claire Godkin		15	13	15	11	7	9	11					81
Brian Kelly		13	11	13	13	6	6						62
Michael Stephens		11		9	6		11	7					44
Charlie Byrne			13			13	15						41
Barry Dunne				11		9	7	9					36
Colum Murphy						15		15					30
Michael Fay					15		13						28
Tony Hartney			15										15
Paul Murtagh								13					13
Brendan Phelan						11							11
Seán Ryan					9								9
Declan Corrigan					7								7
Artistic													
Charlie Byrne		13	15	13	13	15	7						76
Claire Godkin		7	9	5	11	13	15	15					75
Michael Stephens	15	5	6	11	7		9						53
Hugh Nolan		15	13	7	9	7							51
Barry Dunne	15					9							24
Tony Hartney		11		6									17
John Deaton			7	9									16
Michael Fay				15									15
Declan Corrigan					15								15
Maria Jennings							13						13
Liam Slattery			11										11
Colum Murphy						11							11
Brendan O'Looney							11						11
Pat McCarthy		9											9
Brian Kelly		6											6

Competition subjects for remainder of 2026

August natural edge piece
 September bowl of fruit
 October a halloween item
 November AGM no competition
 December a christmas item

Summer BBQ

Demonstrator: Gary Rance

Notes by John O'Neill

Pictures sourced from video by Michael Hart

Our turner today was Gary Rance, he has been 51 years turning and demonstrating for 36 years. He began woodturning after a visit to the job centre at age 15. He started off a bowl turner before moving on to a variety of turning work. He gave a history of his woodturning career, he was always a professional turner, his 'hobby' is metal detecting. He came into wood demonstrating after an invite to share the stage with Stuart Batty, Keith Rowley and Keith Jamie, he hadn't heard of them up to this time. He became a popular demonstrator and one



year he did 72 demos.

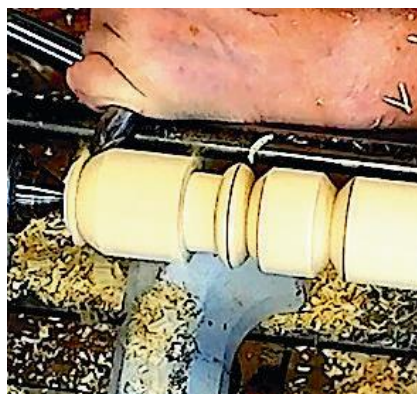
Then he said 'less of the talking and safety glasses on and a little bit of basic spindle turning'. He mounted a spindle blank between centres and showed a couple of round skews which he prefers to use, picture left. Initial cuts made in blank with the skew leaving clean cuts and no torn grain, picture right. Spindle roughing gouge used to turn blank to round, then back to the round skew to put details on the blank.



He went through V cuts, a bead and then

explained how the tool digs in, caused by not putting the tool on the toolrest before it touches the wood, picture above right.

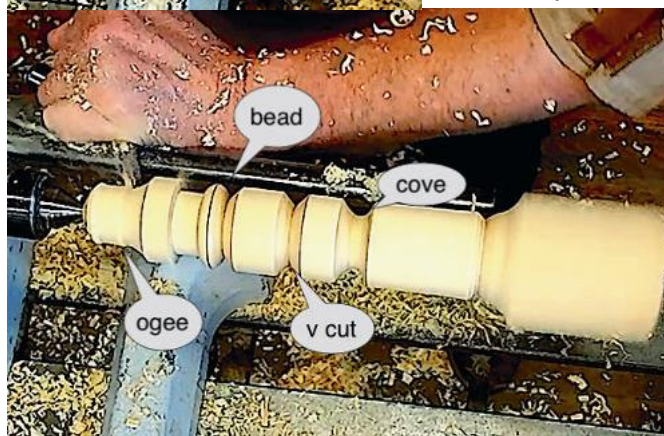
Then explained the wisdom of keeping your hand on top of the skew shaft to prevent it jumping back at you if a catch occurs, picture on right.



A cove next, using a spindle gouge.

Finish with an ogee, "body to hand movement the key to getting a good curve". The full suite of spindle cuts

shown in picture below left. This ended



the lesson in basic spindle turning, I suspect that we all learned something.



A 'propeller idiot stick' is next project, a trick item which requires good spindle work. It consists of a shaft, partly turned to round and a propeller mounted at the round end. A second smaller round stick also required, the piece didn't have a name other than a 'trick'.



A blank 20mm square by 260mm long mounted between centres with a drill bit (3mm) in a jacobs chuck at headstock end and a hole drilled. Ogee turned on tailstock end and rounded on the half at the headstock end, picture on left.



A little bit of decoration with the skew on the rounded shaft. pictured on left, The tailstock half of the piece is still square. A rasp used to put grooves (teeth) along one



edge, picture above right. The piece removed and a small bolt hammered into a hole at the rounded end, this is the axel for the propeller. The propeller blank is 145mm long by 25 x 10mm, hole drilled in the centre. The blank mounted between centres and the centre 20% turned to round with spindle roughing gouge. Skew to finish rounding, picture right.



Gradient turned from outside to centre section until we were left with a dickie bow tie shape, picture left and right. Sanded with 120 grit to finish and then parted off.

A drum sander would normally be used to produce the propeller shape, not to be done for the demo because of the dust. Last is to make a stick for rubbing along the serrations.

A 10x10x100mm blank turned to round and to a wand shape with a spindle roughing gouge and finished with the



skew, picture above right and then sanded to 400 grit, then parted off. A half dome for the propeller turned next. Blank quickly mounted and turned to size, then drilled with same size hole as in the propeller and shaft, picture left. A bit of sanding and then parted off. A small nail used to mount the three parts



together, the propeller not completely finished as it need to be sanded to the propeller shape, picture above right. A novelty project demonstrating the turners skill.

Project 2 , salt shaker.

The salt shaker looks like a hand bell, he held one which he had previously done for the audience to see, picture on the right. It consists of a funnel on the inside and the handle is screwed into the base, a bit of thread chasing required. The salt cellar is filled by turning it upside down and pouring salt into the funnel. Flipping it will release the salt during use. Because of the threading this works better with the harder woods. A purple heart blank mounted between centres and turned to round with a spindle gouging gouge, pictured on the left.



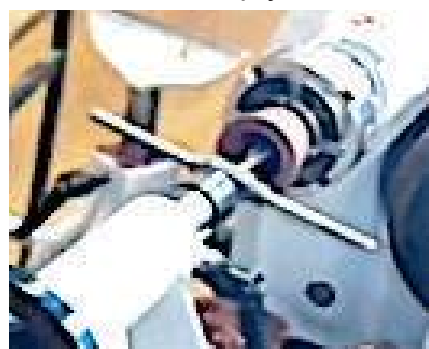
38mm of this blank is for the bell and the rest for the funnell. The funnell component is turned first, it wil.be 40mm at its widest, skew chisel made a quick job of this. No need to sand the funnel as it will never be



seen when the salt shaker is finished, it will be reversed back into the bell. He holds the bell against the blank to indicate what the next task will be, turn the bell to shape, funnell still in place at left side of blank, pictured left. Spigot turned at headstock side and the the funnel is separated using a thin parting tool, a witness mark to indicate the diameter of the funnel left on the blank. The funnell is presented with the bell casing to indicate how it will eventually sit inside the bell, picture below right.

A small spindle gouge((10mm) used to remove the inside of the bell, the gouge placed at centre of hole and arced back to the left side of the blank.

A 12mm hole then drilled through the bell, this to be threaded for the handle, "keep your hand on the jacobs chuck all the time".



He uses a 19tpi tap to match the thread chaser. The thread tap lined up using the tail stock as guide and turned slowly into the wood, picture left.

Purple heart is a good wood for threading and the job was quicky completed. a small skew acting as a box scraper used to create a

recess for the funnel. The funnel has to be a tight fit in the bell housing and glued into place with titebond no. 2 glue, then lightly



tapped in with a hammer. A slight undercut of the flat part of the funnel done with a spindle gouge (10mm), bevel contact essential for smooth cut, picture left. SHarp tool essential so a bit of sharpening required, picture on right. A bit of sanding of the base, "when you're sanding on end grain you've got to be carefull not to get it too hot, heat cracks", sanded with 240, 400 & 600 grit sandpaper.

Bell housing removed from the chuck and a boxwood jam chuck used to remount it for finishing, the 12mm



hole used with the jam chuck.

Tail stock with live centre brought up to secure the housing, it just needs to touch it, no pressure applied, , picture right. Spindle gouge used to create the bell curve shape, light touches essential. Sanding to finish and we were left with the classic bell shape, picture below left.



A cocabola blank for the bell handle. A thread to be made on the lower end for threading into the bell housing, which he

admitted that he had never threaded before, a good time to find out! The blank mounted between a step centre and a live centre for shaping. A story board lined up to mark the various section of the handle design, picture below right. Blank turned to round with the soindle roughing

gouge, the threading section to be tapered down to 18mm. The story marks transferred with a pencil. To allow a 12mm threaded section the diameter of this section to be turned to 13mm. Normally he would use a device called a cotton filter (what I think he called it) to get the diameter right, an expensive little tool more useful to a production turner, a calipers to be used today. The remainder of the handle shaped to a set design with beads and gradual curve, picture below left..



Thread Chasing next, this is done in a circular motion with the thread chasing tool, picture on right.

A steady pace required with a bit of wax to lubricate the tool movement. A bit of fine turning to reduce the diameter of the threaded section.and then the piece rethreaded, testing it in the bell until it fits well, a recess at the back of the threaded section to allow jump out of the tool.



Skew used to provide detail to top of handle, a biot of sanding and then part it off, picture left.

Completed salt shaker pictured below right.

A great project which demonstrated the skills of the craftsman.

Gary also turned an apple, humming top, corian onlay box and a christmas decoration.

A great days turning by a master turner and a great demonstrator.

Thanks Gary

